

## EISENHOWER ADmits U-2 TUMBLING, SAYS BOOK

By Herald Tribune News Service

**NEW YORK.** — Former President Eisenhower has admitted that his administration blundered in its handling of the U-2 crisis.

According to a new book, "The U-2 Affair," Eisenhower "admitted privately that the United States had jumped too soon in issuing its May 5 statement." The statement, issued four days after Francis Gary Powers' plane had been brought down by the Russians, said the pilot experienced oxygen trouble while on a weather mission over Turkey.

Eisenhower also made this admission in a CBS television interview, filmed for use last November. "But this portion of the film was snipped out at the insistence of Lt. Col. John Eisenhower, the President's son, who is serving as his father's aide," the authors said.

### • WRITERS

"The U-2 Affair" is by two Washington correspondents, David Wise of the New York Herald Tribune, and Thomas B. Hogg of the Chicago Sun-Times. It is being serialized in a magazine.

Eisenhower conceded privately that the Administration had become over-confident in the U-2 operation, the authors said, adding:

"There was a great deal of over-confidence." The program had operated very successfully for four years, providing important planning for some of the most important policies of the Eisenhower years. It had convinced the President that the celebrated "other guy" and "missile gap" were fiction. It had also given him the idea that Soviet atomic weapons were not as "Approved For Release 1999/09/17 : CIA-RDP75-00149R000200530016-8

STATINTL

The authors said the U-2 operations had been "unplanned ones or twice because of political considerations, but only in 'an informal way,' and not by specific order of the President or Secretary of State Christian Herter.

In this way, the author said, the U-2 was shot down four times during the visit to Russia by Gen. Nathan F. Twining in 1953 and during Soviet Premier Khrushchev's visit to the United States in 1959.

But, as the time approached for the summit conference of May 15, 1959, the flights were not called off. This was a deliberate decision by American intelligence officers. They believed the summit might result in a degree of harmony that would cancel the flights forever, and they wanted "to get one last mission under the wire," the book stated.

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—